

BACKFIELD POSITIONS ARE HARDEST TO PLAY

Coach's Hardest Task is to Develop Capable Men for Those Positions.

By SOL METZGER
(Coach of the Washington and Jefferson Football Team.)

The more one coaches football teams the more he is impressed with the difficulty of producing capable backfield players, although, for these positions—quarter, full and the two halfbacks—there are more candidates than for any other places on the eleven. Boys of all sizes and abilities come out for the backfield and few are fitted to play there. This is due to the fact that in nearly all preparatory school football teams the big boys and the small ones, who are faster, usually play in the backfield. Nothing is more natural than for them to attempt the same in college. In spite of all this there are few good backs. Most of this type know only how to run with the ball and running with the ball is the last requisite of a back. In fact, because of the other requirements—making interference and playing on defense—it is more difficult to play these positions properly than any other on the team.

Want to Run with Ball.
All players want to run with the ball. Carrying the ball is as satisfying to the football player as is driving 250 yards to the golfer, but a back must know how to interfere to be on a winning team, just as a golfer must first master putting and approaching. Consequently, making interference and playing a stiff defensive game is the problem of the backfield player and coach. In the former the back becomes a linemen in that he is not likely to receive much public praise for good work. In the latter he must not only be able to tackle viciously, but he must be quick at diagnosing the offense in order to break it up before it is under way. And with equal importance his value grows as he is able to catch, pass and kick the ball.

Few Good Backs.
Knowing the requirements for good backfield play is not strange that so few players really are great backs. To become a great back one must be a quick thinker, aggressive, strong and speedy in order to accomplish his tasks as well as to stand the pounding one in this position is subjected to. Running with the ball is a secondary consideration of the good coach in selecting his first string of backs.

There have been few backs playing on winning teams because of their running ability alone. In a number of years of experience in closely following the game I know of but one. He could not make interference or tackle, yet he proved of benefit to this team because he made many touchdowns by almost superhuman speed. His coach played him solely because he could score more points than the opposing eleven and he "broke up" many games in the first quarter by his magnificent running—a time when scores are almost certain to discourage any opposition. Yet this back, whose name I am not at liberty to give, was only a success because his teammates made the needed interference for him. This player was a football freak, the exception who proves the rule that interference and defense must come first.

Many Good Runners.
While many backs are better at running with the ball than others, because of speed, driving power, ability to hold their feet and to fight forward when tackled or because of some odd knack in eluding tacklers, they often prove to be a problem for the coach if they lack other and more important essentials. At the start of a season when the coach is bending every effort to teach them these essen-

tials and during the first practice games, especially, the coach is inclined to discipline such players by keeping them off the team which starts these games. Later, in order to see them under fire, he sends them in. They are then fresh and with victory already assured (who cannot play great football on a winning team?) they thrill the crowds by spectacular runs for scores against a beaten and worn-out opponent. The result is a half-baked back who knows all there is to know about football (in his own opinion), but who on the contrary, has both planted the seeds of dissatisfaction in his own mind and given the coach one of the many intricate and difficult problems in handling human nature that he daily meets during a season.

Coaches Are Criticized.
This problem is one of the most exasperating from the coach's standpoint for he must keep this candidate off the team until he masters the essentials of the backfield playing in spite of the demands for his appearance by the public and the press as well as the belief of the boy himself that he is being discriminated against. Any other course but ruins any chance of making this player into a good back, while the following of this proper course brings out censure and criticism upon the coach. Some even do not hesitate to come to the coach with their views—they leave thinking differently.

It is scarcely necessary to discuss defensive backfield play, because it is primarily tackling, except to say that the defensive back is to a team what a general, with his reinforcement is to an army—the back must sense the attack and meet it before it is under way. If it is a run he must drive into and under it before it reaches the line of scrimmage; if a forward pass he must "cover" the eligible man he is responsible for; and if a kick he must either catch the ball or bowl over the ends or tacklers who are first down under the kick.

So varied is modern football offense that most teams plays a roving center on defense whose duties are like those of a defensive back. Some of the best centers get their training for this position by previously playing in the backfield. Peck, of Pittsburg, is an example of this.

Must Make Interference.
On offense all backs must be able to make interference for the modern attack divides the strain of carrying the ball among all four of them. Without his interference the man carrying the ball is helpless, be he a Mahan, a Barrett or a Hastings. Making interference is first a matter of quick starting in order to meet the defense before it is in a position to damage the play. The proper method of making interference was discussed in a former article.

In taking a position in the backfield on offense a player should stand with his feet about parallel to the line of scrimmage, so he can run forward to either side with equal speed. His feet should be about two feet apart and he should lean forward with one hand on the ground and get "up on his toes" in order to get under way rapidly. In carrying the ball the runner should secure it in both arms when backing the line. In plays off tackle and around the end he should secure it under the outside arm so he can use the inside arm to ward off tacklers, all of whom will come from that direction on such plays.

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RED SOX

(Continued from page 1, second sec.)

In leaving Scott stranded on second base.

Seventh Inning.

Another double play made Brooklyn's turn at the bat in the seventh inning. Cutshaw was thrown out by Janvrin after the second baseman had juggled the ball. Mowrey got his only single of the game when he drove a hot one to right. Olson hit a grounder toward third and both runners were out, Gardner to Janvrin to Hoblitzel.

The last half of the seventh inning was joyous for the Boston fans.

Janvrin, first up, hit a beautiful two bagger down past third base. Olson made his second error when he fumbled Walker's grounder, Janvrin taking third. Cutshaw, anxious to make a double play, fumbled Hoblitzel's grounder and Janvrin scored amid great cheering. Walker took second on the play. Both runners advanced on Lewis's sacrifice, Daubert to Cutshaw. Cutshaw ran in for Gardner's grounder and threw to the plate too late to head off Walker. Hoblitzel moved to third. Scott sent a long sacrifice fly to Stengel, and Hoblitzel tallied the third run of the inning. Cady did not wait for four balls on this trip to the plate, but grounded out, Cutshaw to Daubert.

Eighth Inning.

The Superbas tried to rally in the eighth, but another double play by the fast fielding Red Sox ended their chances to score. Meyers was thrown out by Scott. Johnston, batting for Marquard, slashed a single to right field. Myers hit a grounder through the pitcher's box which Shore deflected to Scott. Scott made a quick throw to Janvrin, who touching second, made a fine catch and throw to first, for the double play.

Jeff Pfeffer went into pitch for Brooklyn in the second half of the eighth and Boston added another run to its score. Shore fled to Wheat. Hooper walked and sprinted to third on Janvrin's single to right. In an effort to catch Hooper going to third, Stengel threw wild and Hooper scored, Janvrin taking second on the throw. Walker got a base on balls. Hoblitzel lifted a high fly to Wheat and then Lewis forced Walker out at second, Olson to Cutshaw, ending the inning.

Ninth Inning.

Then came the exciting ninth, in which Brooklyn almost caught up with the American League champions. Daubert opened the inning by receiving a base on balls. Stengel whipped a single to right field, off which Hooper made a quick return and prevented Daubert from going to third. Wheat forced Daubert at third. Shore to Gardner, Stengel taking second. Cutshaw was hit by a pitched ball and the bases were full. Janvrin, in his anxiety to end the game with a double play, fumbled Mowrey's grounder and Stengel and Cutshaw safely reached second. Olson scratched an infield hit toward third base and the bases were again full. Chief Meyers tried his best to make a big drive, but killed Brooklyn's enthusiasm by lifting a foul fly to Hoblitzel. Merkle, pinch hitting for Pfeffer, drew a base on balls, forcing home Cutshaw. Then Manager Carrigan took Shore out and sent in Mays and also substituted Thomas for Catcher Cady. Myers got an infield single between first and second, and Mowrey scored Brooklyn's fourth run of the inning. Olson moved to third and Merkle to second. With one run to tie, the heavy hitting Daubert came to the bat for the second time in the inning amid much excitement. He fouled off the first ball sent up by Mays. The next two were balls, and then Daubert shot a grounder to Scott who threw to Hoblitzel and the Red Sox had tucked away the first victory of the 1916 world's series.

The official box score.

Brooklyn	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Myers, cf	5	0	2	1	0	0
Daubert, 1b	4	0	0	5	1	0
Stengel, rf	4	2	2	1	0	1
Wheat, lf	4	1	2	3	0	0
Cutshaw, 2b	3	1	0	5	2	1
Mowrey, 3b	3	1	1	1	2	0
Olson, ss	4	0	1	2	1	2
Meyers, c	4	0	1	6	3	0
Marquard p	2	0	0	0	0	0
x Johnston	1	0	1	0	0	0
Pfeffer, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
xx Merkle	0	0	0	0	0	0

Totals.....34 5 10 24 9 4
x Batted for Marquard in eighth inning.

xx Batted for Pfeffer in ninth inning.

Boston	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Hooper, rf	4	2	1	1	1	0
Janvrin, 2b	4	1	2	2	8	1
Walker, cf	4	1	2	0	0	0
Hoblitzel, 1b	5	2	1	14	0	0
Lewis, lf	3	0	1	0	0	0
Gardner, 3b	4	1	1	1	3	0
Scott, ss	2	0	0	2	4	0
Cady, c	1	0	0	4	0	0
Thomas, p	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shore, c	4	0	0	3	0	0
Mays, p	0	0	0	0	0	0

Totals.....31 6 8 27 19 1

Brooklyn.....000 100 004-6

Boston.....001 010 31x-6

Two base hits—Lewis, Hooper, Janvrin.

Three base hits—Walker, Hoblitzel, Wheat, Meyers.

Sacrifice hits—Scott, Janvrin, Lewis.

Sacrifice fly—Scott.

Double plays—Janvrin, Scott and Hoblitzel; Hooper and Cady; Gardner, Janvrin and Hoblitzel; Shore, Scott and Janvrin and Hoblitzel.

Left on bases—Brooklyn 6; Boston 11.

First base on errors—Brooklyn 1; Boston 3.

Bases on balls—Off Marquard 4; off Pfeffer 2; of Shore 3.

Hits and earned runs—Off Marquard, 7 hits 3 runs in seven innings; off Pfeffer 1 hit 1 run in one inning; off Shore, 9 hits 2 runs in 8 2-3 innings; off Mays 1 hit 1 run in 1-3 innings.

Hit by pitcher—By Shore, (Cutshaw).

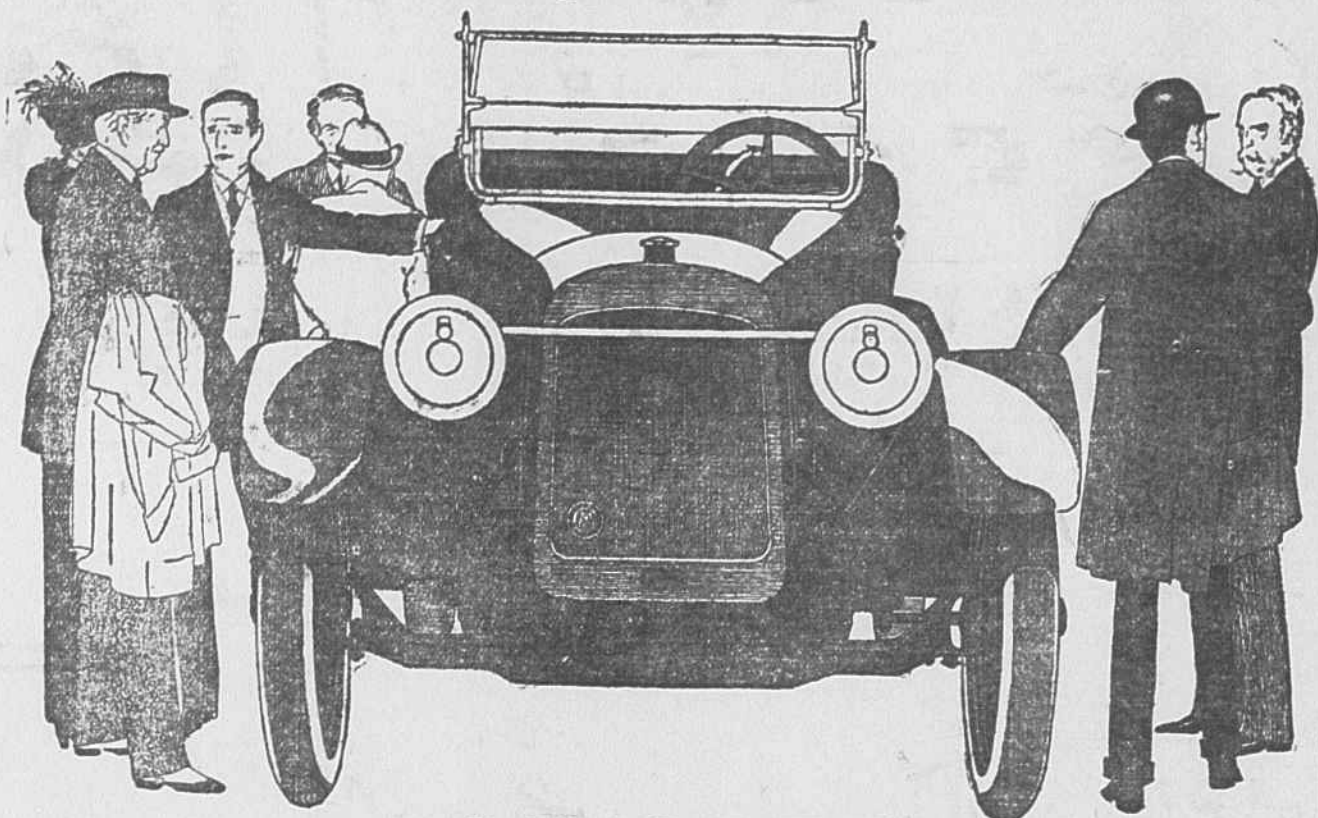
Struck out—By Marquard 6; by Shore, 5.

Passed ball—Meyers.

Umpires—Plate, Connolly; bases, O'Day; left field, Quigley; right field, Dineen.

Time—2:16.

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DAVIS ELKINS TRIMS GLENVILLE GRIDDERS

"Biz" Dawson, Former Washington Irving Player, Scores for Davis-Elkins.

(SPECIAL TO THE TELEGRAM)

ELKINS, Oct. 7.—The Davis and Elkins football team defeated Glenville Normal today in an interesting game by the score of 39 to 0. Dick Hamill, former Davis and Elkins athlete brought a green bunch of players but they showed the greatest fighting spirit ever seen on the local field. During the first quarter the Glenville county boys held Davis and Elkins scoreless but from that time on the Maroon and White opened up and scored six touchdowns.

The features of the game were the playing of Quarterback Brophy, Dawson and Cutright and Core halves for Davis and Elkins and the line plunges of Wint, fullback for Glenville. Much credit is due to Hamill's coaching, as this is the best looking team Glenville has had for several years. The lineup and summary follows:

Davis-Elkins	Glenville
Berry	H. Wiant
Wimer	Left end.
McQue	Left tackle.
Tomey	Left guard.
Chenoweth	Center.
Hatfield	Right guard.
Law (Capt.)	Right tackle.
Bell	Right end.
Galner	Quarterback.
Ralston	Left halfback.
Wilfong	Right halfback.
C. Wiant	Fullback.
Tuchdowns—Brophy 4, Core 1,	

Dawson 1.
Goals from touchdowns—May 3.
Referee—Irons, of Pennsylvania.
Umpire—Rowan, West Virginia University.
Head linesman—Jackson, Ohio State University.
Time of quarters—Twelve and one-half minutes.

WASH-JEFF

(Continued from page 1, second sec.)

Episcopal church. Lineup and summary:
Washington and Jefferson.....21
Wesleyan.....0

Position	Washington and Jefferson	Wesleyan
Tressel	Bradley	
Left End		
Carroll	Clark	
Left Tackle		
Wimberly (captain)	Wagner	
Left Guard		
Guy	Allen	
Center		
Drew	Vance	
Right Guard		
Henry	Taylor	
Right Tackle		
Whitehill	Blake	
Right End		
Stobbs	Harris	
Quarterback		
Gurley	Beck	
Left Half		
Nuss	Ross	
Right Half		
McCreight	Calac	
Full Back		
Score by periods:		
W. and J.	14	7
Wesleyan	0	0
Substitutes: Wesleyan—Tschap		
pat for Vance; Neale for Clark; W.		
J. Morrison for Bradley; Shumaker		
for Beck; Jacobs for W. G. Morris		
son; Bradley for Blake; Fisher for		
Harris; Miller for Fisher; Fisher for		

PERSHING'S MEN GET STATIONERY AND MAGAZINES

Pencils and Testaments Sent Soldiers by Young Men's Christian Association.

EL PASO, Tex., Oct. 7.—Three motor trucks left Columbus, N. M., recently, loaded with 100,000 sheets of letter paper, 75,000 envelopes, three tons of magazines, twenty-four gross of pencils and 1,000 testaments for distribution among the soldiers of the American punitive force in Mexico. The gift to General Pershing's men was the result of a trip to Columbus, N. M., by W. F. Adams, field secretary of the association, who learned of the shortage of writing materials in the expedition. Heretofore the association has had

Miller; Roberts for Neale; Blake for Bradley.
Washington and Jefferson—Fain for Nuss; J. T. Morrison for Whitehill; Shields for Guy; Bovill for Shields; Wilson for J. T. Morrison; Wickesham for Wilson; Lally for Fain; Straw for Wimberly; Moore for Tressel; Nall for Henry; Crawford for Gurley; Reese for Moore; Bixler for Wickesham; Smith for J. Drew. Touchdowns—McCreight, Tressel, Henry.
Kicked goal for touchdowns—Gurley 3.
Referee—James J. Cosgrove, Cornell.
Umpire—D. W. Marrison, Geneva; head linesman, Fred J. Crodus, Dartmouth.
Time of quarters—15 minutes.

too much of its time taken up with the camps of the national guard and of the regulars at the border towns to give full attention to the men in Mexico. But, according to Secretary Adams other truckloads of writing pads and reading matter will follow now at regular intervals.
The Ohio camp near El Paso opened its new Young Men's Christian Association building recently. It is 40x120 feet, with reading and writing tables, tables for checkers, dominoes and other games and a moving picture screen with a 120 foot throw. The building is capable of seating an entire regiment.

WOMAN EDITOR

Shoots and Kills Montana Politician Following a Heated Argument.

MISSOULA, Mont., Oct. 7.—E. C. Thomas, chairman of the Sanders county Republican central committee, died from wounds inflicted by Miss Edith Colby, a newspaper woman of Thompson Falls. A bullet in the abdomen caused death. Thomas expired before he was able to make a statement.
Miss Colby is under arrest. Bail has been refused.
Ed Donlat, a Republican politician, said Miss Colby had a heated argument a few days ago with Thomas. Several threats were made, he said.
The shooting occurred in the street in front of Thomas's office. Witnesses said that not a word was spoken. Miss Colby walked up to Thomas, fired three shots and Thomas staggered. Assisted by a friend, he walked into his office. Later he came here.
Miss Colby accepted the editorial chair of the Independent Enterprise about two months ago. She formerly was prominent in Spokane politics.
The shooting was the result, it is believed, of a newspaper fight, which has been raging for three months.

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